Message Text

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61 ORIGIN EA-09	

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-04 SP-02 INR-07 PRS-01 EUR-12

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DRAFTED BY EA/K:JDFORBES:JDB
APPROVED BY EA/K - MR. O'DONOHUE
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P 042321Z FEB 76

P 042321Z FEB 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, KS

SUBJECT: CENTER FOR DEFENSE INFORMATION REPORT ON KOREA

- 1. WASHINGTON-BASED CENTER FOR DEFENSE INFORMATION, HEADED BY RETIRED ADMIRAL LAROQUE, HAS ISSUED STUDY ON U.S. SECURITY POLICIES IN KOREA AS JANUARY ISSUE OF CENTER'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER THE DEFENSE MONITOR. COPY BEING POUCHED TO EMBASSY.
- 2. FOLLOWING ARE CONCLUSIONS OF STUDY: QUOTE
 A. THE GROWING SOUTH KOREAN CAPACITY TO DEFEND ITSELF
 MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR THE U.S. TO BEGIN WITHDRAWING ITS
 GROUND FORCES FROM KOREA IN 1978 AND TO COMPLETE THIS
 WITHDRAWAL BY 1980.
- B. THE KOREAN CONFLICT SHOULD BE SEPARATED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE FROM GREAT POWER INVOLVEMENT. THE U.S. SHOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAKE IT A MATTER OF PUBLIC POLICY THAT IT DOES NOT INTEND

TO BECOME INVOLVED IN ANOTHER KOREAN WAR IF THE ORIGINS OF THAT WAR ARE PURELY KOREAN AND IT SHOULD SEEK AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE SOVIET UNION THAT THEY TOO WOULD REFRAIN FROM BECOMING INVOLVED IN A WAR OF PURELY KOREAN ORIGIN. THIS WOULD REDUCE THE LIKLIHOOD OF ADVENTUROUS ACTIONS BY BOTH KOREAS THAT MIGHT

LEAD TO WAR.

- C. U.S. CONTACTS AND IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA WOULD REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY OF NORTH KOREAN MISCALCULATIONS AND RESORT TO MILITARY FORCE. THE PROCESS OF IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA HAS YIELDED BENEFITS THAT MAKE A SIMILAR POLICY TOWARD NORTH KOREA DESIRABLE.
- D. IT IS INCREASINGLY LIKELY THAT OPPRESSIVE POLICIES OF THE SOUTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT WILL WEAKEN THE WILLINGNESS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE U.S. DEFENSE COMMITMENT TO SOUTH KOREA. GREATER SENSITIVITY BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA GOVERNMENT TO U.S. CONCERNS WOULD REDUCE THIS POSSIBILITY.
- E. THE USE OF U.S. NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN KOREA COULD LEAD TO GENERAL NUCLEAR WAR, ARE NOT NECESSARY FOR DEFENSE OF SOUTH KOREA, AND OUGHT TO BE PROMPTLY WITHDRAWN. UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: POLICIES, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, MILITARY PLANS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 04 FEB 1976 Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE027508

Document Number: 1976STATE027508
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: JDFORBES:JDB Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760043-0052

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760282/aaaactut.tel

Line Count: 88

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN EA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS

Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: morefirh

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 23 OCT 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 OCT 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <27 MAY 2004 by morefirh>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CENTER FOR DEFENSE INFORMATION REPORT ON KOREA TAGS: PARM, KS, US, CENTER FOR DEFENSE INFORMATION, (LAROQUE) To: SEOUL

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006